

**News Release** 

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## **Trillium to Host Third Reentry Simulation**

Program teaches about the barriers faced by those recently released from prison

ELIZABETH CITY, NC: Trillium Health Resources will host a third reentry simulation at the K.E. White Graduate Center at Elizabeth City State University on January 30, 2024. This event will provide a hands-on experience of the barriers for individuals released from incarceration, including those with severe substance use, mental illness, and intellectual/developmental disabilities. Through volunteers and role-playing, attendees experience situations trying to access services and resources that are often challenging and difficult to navigate. Our last event was held on September 26 in Greenville.

Each attendee will be assigned a specific profile and given a list of tasks to complete. Participants will attempt to find jobs, attend treatment appointments, maintain stable housing, and comply with the conditions of their release. For example, if too many years have lapsed, a person may only have access to a learner's permit instead of a full license. This limits when they can drive, lessening their ability to find employment or housing.

Around 30,000 individuals are incarcerated in the state of North Carolina. Each year, around 2/3 of them are released. With recidivism rates around 35-40%, prison populations remain steady. A huge factor for recidivism is not having proper support and encouragement upon reentry. Groups like Our Journey are working to change that.

Our Journey sends a resource kit that includes a book with support and tips on the emotions they may experience, gift cards to restaurants, a local resource guide, a t-shirt, and two doses of narcan. Individuals recently released from prison are 40 times more likely to die from an opioid overdose.

To learn more or to register for this free event, please visit our website.



## ABOUT TRILLIUM HEALTH RESOURCES

Trillium Health Resources is a leading specialty care manager (LME/MCO) for individuals with substance use, mental illness and intellectual/developmental disabilities in 28 counties in eastern North Carolina. Trillium's mission is to transform the lives of people in need by providing them with ready access to quality care. We take a personcentered approach to health and wellbeing, coordinating care across multiple systems to achieve improved health outcomes, quality of care and efficient use of resources. Trillium is investing in innovation to meet the unique needs of the individuals and communities we serve, and remains focused on delivering the right services, in the right amount, at the right time. For more information, visit <u>www.TrilliumHealthResources.org</u>.

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